

members of the Class of the British College of Nurses realised their time limit and were unanimous that another, indeed many, visits were necessary to drink in all the Naval history that could be learned, so beautifully told here in the famous pictures, ships' models, sculpture, maps and relics of our great unconquerable heroes to whom Great Britain owes so much of its greatness.

The party has indeed seen something of a Nautical Centre of the British Empire, and the members of the party were unanimous in their desire to express warmest thanks to the Council of the British College of Nurses for the privilege of this entrancing visit, from which they came away with a profound sense of gratitude and admiration, in the deeper knowledge of our Naval history through which for generations the courage and self-sacrifice of Britain's Heroes shine unchallenged, and acclaimed this visit to the National Maritime Museum one of the most inspiring and one ever to be remembered.

ALICE STEWART BRYSON.

THE PASSING BELL.

MISS M. C. WATSON, R.R.C.

Miss M. C. Watson, R.R.C., retired Acting Matron, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, died at Surbiton on October 26th, 1937.

Trained at the Great Northern Central Hospital, Miss Watson was appointed Staff Nurse, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service in 1907, and resigned her appointment in 1913. She was reappointed in 1915 and served as Acting Matron during the War at home and in France till 1919, when she retired. She was awarded the decoration of the Royal Red Cross in 1917.

MISS C. M. PEARCE.

Miss C. M. Pearce, retired Acting Sister, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, died at Eastbourne on October 28th, 1937.

Miss Pearce was trained at the Royal Hospital, Salford, and appointed Staff Nurse in Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service in 1908. She served at various stations at home and as Acting Sister in France from 1914 till 1916, when she retired owing to ill-health.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON NURSING SERVICES.

TERMS OF REFERENCE.

PERSONNEL OF THE NURSING COMMITTEE.

As recently stated in the House of Commons, an Inter-Departmental Committee has been appointed by the Minister of Health and the President of the Board of Education to inquire into the recruitment, training, registration and terms and conditions of service of nurses. The terms of reference to the Committee are as follows:—

"To inquire into the arrangements at present in operation with regard to the recruitment, training, registration, and terms and conditions of service of persons engaged in nursing the sick, and to report whether any changes in those arrangements or any other measures are expedient for the purpose of maintaining an adequate service both for institutional and for domiciliary nursing."

The Committee will consist of:—

Chairman, The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Athlone, K.G., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O.

Dr. Dorothy Brock, headmistress of the Mary Datchelor School, Camberwell Grove, S.E.5.

Mr. Cemlyn-Jones, chairman of the Public Health and Housing Committee, County Councils Association.

Miss Gertrude Cowlin, S.R.N., visitor for the Central Council of District Nursing, London.

Mr. Rhys Davies, M.P. for Westhoughton.

Mr. H. A. de Montmorency, Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Health.

Sir Francis Fremantle, M.P. for St. Albans.

Sir Arthur J. Hall, formerly Professor of Medicine, University of Sheffield, and Consultant Physician, Sheffield Royal Hospital.

Mrs. Keynes, former Mayor of Cambridge, member of the Public Assistance Committee, Association of Municipal Corporations.

Miss Megan Lloyd George, M.P. for Anglesey.

Mr. C. W. Maudslay, Principal Assistant Secretary, Board of Education.

Sir Frederick Menzies, County Medical Officer of Health, London.

Miss E. M. Musson, S.R.N., Chairman, General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

Mr. R. H. P. Orde, Hon. Sec., British Hospitals Association.

Dr. Gilbert E. Orme, medical practitioner, interested in nursing questions.

Professor Picken, Welsh National School of Medicine.

Miss D. M. Smith, S.R.N., Matron, Middlesex Hospital.

Mr. H. S. Souttar, surgeon, London Hospital.

Dr. W. Rees Thomas, Medical Senior Commissioner, Board of Control.

Miss Wakeford, S.R.N., Staff Nurse, Kingston and District Hospital, on the Surrey County Council.

Mr. H. M. Walton, Director of Education, Middlesex County Council.

The Secretaries to the Committee are:—

Sir Weldon Dalrymple-Champneys, Bart., D.M., B.Ch., D.P.H., F.R.C.P., of the Ministry of Health; and

W. A. B. Hamilton, Esq., of the Board of Education.

The Minister of Health has arranged for the services of his Women Inspectors to be placed at the disposal of the Committee for the purposes of advice and inquiries on technical nursing matters.

All communications intended for the Committee should be addressed:—

"The Secretary,
Inter-Departmental Committee on Nursing Services,
Ministry of Health,
Whitehall,
London, S.W.1."

We invite the opinion of members of the Nursing Profession on the personnel of this Committee.

We have no hesitation in condemning its partisan constitution.

The exclusion of representatives of the Nurses' Organisations is, in our opinion, inexcusable, and we fear that it is this persistent denial of representation to the organised rank and file concerning their own affairs by the Government and others, and, in consequence, the depreciation of the nurses' status in public opinion, which is largely responsible for the necessity of an inquiry at all.

Since writing the above paragraph we have heard on the "phone" nothing but expressions of condemnation upon the part of nurses, who specially object to members of the County Councils' Association and the Association of Municipal Corporations, whose standards of training are considered unsound, and who ask why the British Hospitals Association—composed of Secretaries and other officials—should be given representation and the Nurses' Organisations excluded?

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